

Natural Gas Transmission Line



SAFETY BULLETIN



New Jersey
Natural Gas



NJNG'S TRANSMISSION PIPELINES:

- Buried underground.
- Marked with yellow pipeline markers as required by federal law.
- Include a 24-hour emergency phone number, 800-GAS-LEAK (427-5325).
- Pipeline markers indicate pipeline presence, not its exact location.
- Pipeline markers **do not** indicate pipeline depth or how many lines are in the area.

It is a federal crime for any person to willfully deface, damage, remove or destroy a pipeline marker or damage pipeline facilities.

RECOGNIZING A NATURAL GAS PIPELINE LEAK

Smell – A distinctive odor, like that of rotten eggs. However, the odor could fade, be masked by other odors or missed because of a diminished sense of smell.

Look – Discolored or dead vegetation; a dense mist above the pipeline or disturbed soil above it

Listen – A loud and high-pitched sound

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT A NATURAL GAS PIPELINE LEAK

Don't Delay. Get Away!

- Evacuate everyone from the building or site immediately.
- **Do not** use open flames or activate anything that may create a spark – such as flashlights, phones of all types, light switches, appliances, doorbells, garage door openers, equipment or vehicles.
- **Do not** attempt to operate pipeline valves.
- Call 911 and the pipeline operator from a safe place.

If it is an NJNG pipeline, call us at 800-GAS-LEAK (427-5325) from a safe location. Let us know where you are.

REPORT NATURAL GAS LEAKS OR DAMAGES IMMEDIATELY

Call NJNG at 800-GAS-LEAK (427-5325) if you notice any of the following:

- Signs of a leak or potential damage to the pipeline
- Excavation on or near our Right of Way (ROW)
- Any activities out of the ordinary near the pipeline or ROW, such as dumping or construction
- Damage to pipeline markers

If you are outside NJNG's distribution system, call your local utility's emergency number for reporting natural gas leaks and damages. You should know how to reach them quickly.

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAYS AND EASEMENT AGREEMENTS

The strip of land over our pipeline is located either in a public Right of Way (ROW), or is protected through an easement agreement between NJNG and the property owner. Easement agreements provide NJNG with a permanent, limited interest in the land to ensure the safety of our pipeline facilities. The ROW size, width and location are usually specified in an easement agreement.

NJNG uses several methods, such as clearing a ROW, to allow NJNG crews to patrol, operate, test, inspect, maintain and protect our pipelines.

LANDOWNERS' USE OF PIPELINE ROW

Landowners may use the ROW, providing they do not interfere with NJNG's rights as described in the easement agreement. Any proposed work within the ROW must be approved in writing by NJNG's Pressure Measurement and Transmission Department (PMT), which can be reached at 732-919-8021 or safetybulletin@njng.com. Any excavation in the pipeline ROW is strictly prohibited unless written approval is received from PMT. Excavation activity in the vicinity of a transmission pipeline when NJNG personnel are not present is **extremely dangerous**, may cause damage to the pipeline and increase the risk of serious personal injury, loss of life or property damage.

NJNG personnel must be present whenever any approved work is done on the transmission pipeline ROW.

REPORT EXPOSED PIPELINE

If any portion of the transmission pipeline is exposed, please report this immediately to NJNG at 800-GAS-LEAK (427-5325).

Do not walk on, climb on, strike or attempt to move exposed pipeline.

ROW LIMITATIONS

Structures

Temporary or permanent structures cannot be built on any NJNG ROW, including houses, fences, tool sheds, garages, poles, guy wires, catch basins, swimming pools, trailers, leaching fields, septic tanks and other objects not easily removed.

Grade Changes

Grade changes are not allowed within the ROW due to regulations for minimum coverage over the pipeline.

Fences

Fences obstruct our ability to access the ROW for emergency or maintenance work, and are not allowed to be installed within the ROW limits.

Driveways, Roads and Parking Lots

Generally, paving over a ROW may be permitted, subject to the written approval of NJNG's PMT department after a detailed written plan is submitted. The greatest threat to our pipeline is excavation damage, no matter how minor.

Trees

Trees that grow more than six feet in height cannot be planted within the limits of the ROW. Trees inhibit access to our ROW and the roots can damage the pipeline coating. NJNG may trim or remove trees that encroach on the ROW.



At **New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG)**, safety is our top priority. Make it yours, too. Join us as a Partner in Safety by following the important information in this bulletin. Even if you do not receive natural gas service from NJNG, you may live, work or own property in the proximity of our over 250 miles of transmission pipelines, connecting our local distribution system to five interstate pipelines that transport natural gas to our region.*

NJNG designs, constructs and operates all its pipelines in full compliance with federal and state pipeline safety regulations and industry standards, and regularly conducts leak surveys, patrols and safety inspections of our natural gas transmission pipelines. Periodic in-line inspections are performed with sensors and cameras. Remotely controlled valves installed at select locations along our pipelines give NJNG the ability to shut down the flow of natural gas, if necessary. NJNG regularly conducts training and drills with emergency responders and state and local agencies to test procedures, logistics and communications, and ensure emergency plans are in place. NJNG's pipeline system is remotely monitored 24/7.

**There are three categories of natural gas pipelines:¹ Transmission lines are large, high-pressure lines that move natural gas from production fields to our region and throughout our service territory. The pressure is reduced at regulator stations and fed into² local distribution lines that deliver natural gas to meters on customers' properties. ³ Fuel lines, owned and maintained by customers, bring natural gas directly to home appliances.*



**SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.
EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.**

It's FREE and it's the LAW!

If you plan to dig or excavate on your own property, New Jersey law requires you to first call New Jersey One Call at 811 or 800-272-1000 at least three business days prior for a free markout of underground public utility lines. This includes natural gas pipelines that may be located on your property. Then you must:

Wait three business days for the site to be marked with paint, flags or stakes (yellow indicates natural gas lines).

Respect all marks and dig with care. Keep in mind, inclement weather may wash away painted markings.

Hand dig within two feet of buried piping and facilities.

For more information, visit nj1-call.org.

To Report a Natural Gas Leak



To find public information about the location of pipelines in your community, visit the National Pipeline Mapping System at pvnpm.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer.

Our Partners in Safety team provides FREE training seminars to municipal first responders and the excavation and trade industries to ensure we all live and work safely with natural gas. For more information, visit njng.com/safety or email safetyawareness@njng.com.



www.njng.com/safety
800-221-0051